

Meet our lovely, rescued donkeys



Lucy's UK Donkey Foundation is a UK registered charity (No. 1174959). Our main focus is to raise funds in order to support **Lucy's Sanctuary for Holy Land Donkeys**, a loving sanctuary that provides treatment, protection and a caring forever home to abused and unwanted donkeys. The sanctuary is located in Israel and is run by Lucy Fensom.

The funds we raise also enable Lucy and her small team to run mobile veterinary clinics to help the hard working donkeys, mules and horses in Israeli Arab villages and areas of the Palestinian West Bank, where they are a means to their owners' everyday livelihood.

As part of their work, Lucy and her team make every effort to help educate the donkey owners to teach them better handling methods (including correct harnessing, foot care, dentistry, feeding) and to understand that their donkeys and horses are sentient beings that will improve their livelihood if they are cared for well and not suffering.



As at July 2020, the sanctuary in Israel is home to 50 donkeys and 3 horses, most of them rescued in Israel or the Palestinian West Bank from appalling circumstances, abuse or because they were abandoned, plus 7 rescued cats and 3 rescued dogs.

Here, we would like to introduce you to our lovely donkey residents.



Alan

Alan and his friend had been hit by a car and left stranded and wounded by the side of a busy road. Alan had lost a lot of blood, had various cuts and wounds everywhere and was extremely hungry and dehydrated. Very tragically the wounds of his friend – we called him Joseph – were so severe that we had to help him to cross the rainbow bridge. But our darling Alan is happy and safe with us and turned into a real cutie.



Alfredo



Our beautiful boy Alfredo was found, undernourished and badly injured, at the back of an Israeli Arab village, Tayibe, which runs into Palestinian villages. It is presumed he must have come from there and was abandoned due to his poor leg injury which we feel sure is a result of having been hobbled.



Arnold



This poor, dear donkey was so terribly abused at a market after being left abandoned in torrential rain - he was found by youngsters who decided to torment him and stone him. His rescue took a week but finally he is with

us safe, secure and content. He is so grateful to be here, despite the abuse he's suffered and the discomfort of his wounds and scars, he is a gentle and calm little donkey who has immediately found his place within our herd.



Apples & Angelo



Apples is a very nervous little donkey because she was horrendously abused before she finally came to us. She was found injured and bleeding and had to be lifted by a crane to the safe side of fence for her own protection. Her injured leg is thankfully completely healed but her soul is still shy. Some months after her dramatic rescue she gave birth to little Angelo, who truly looks like a little angle.



Barbara

We rescued our dear Barbara from religious Jewish settlement, together with David. They had been found by religious youths who had ridiculed, abused, ridden and merciless beaten them. Thankfully there is a saviour in Elad, called Daniel. A young man who does everything to try to teach the youths in that community to be kind to animals and has even set up an education area to introduce kids and animals. He managed to confiscate the two donkeys who are happy now with us.



Big Bear

Our beautiful and soft gentle giant Bear was rescued after somebody reported him being severely abused in the Israeli Arab village of Kfar Kasem. Because he is a larger than average donkey he had been heavily laden with building bricks and was being beaten and forced to pull a load far too heavy for him. It was believed that Bear came from the Palestinian side directly across the boarder but because he was working within Israel that day, the police intervened and brought him to us. Bear is the big daddy of our herd and especially the youngsters love to play with him.



Ben Hur

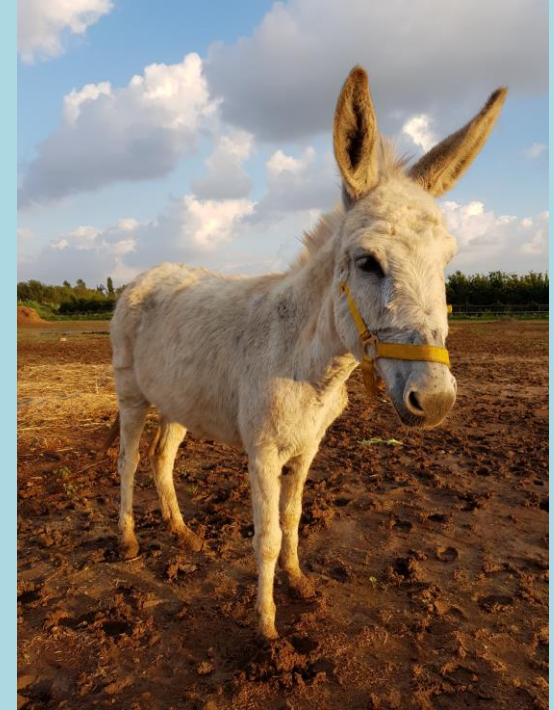


When we found Ben Hur, he was made to galopp uphill, pulling a cart carrying two big men, as he was merciless beaten. He has lost one of his eye. Ben is a feisty, lovable, rough character who constantly wants to show he is the boss. Particularly around other boys he can be a bit of a bully boy. Just recently he became great friends with Katy, one of our elderly donkey ladies. She has learnt to keep him in check and Ben is happy to let her boss him around for a change.



Bella

Our lovely, young Bella came to us with her again pregnant mum Crystal. Bella and Crystal had belonged to an elderly man in nearby Arab village of Qalansuwa, who used them for work. Nowadays Bella loves nothing more than hanging around with her great girl friends Lily, Erika and Barbara. Sadly her dear mum Crystal left us just some days before christmas.



Carrots & Poppy

Our clever little Carrots, a formerly horribly abused working donkey, gave birth to the tiniest, most endearing and precious little baby girl donkey. Poppy has a severe scoliosis and it is possible that she was born prematurely as she really is tiny. We are watching her and her mummy carefully and our heart aches for her and we are praying so much that she will make it. Carrots is a truly wonderful mum.



Cicely

Our gentle black beauty Cicely belongs to the golden oldies in the herd. She is an extremely sweet and loving soul who had to endure a lot before we finally found her. After suffering a terrible life as a working donkey she is now finally safe with us and just can not get enough kisses, cuddles, carrots and attention.



Crystal & Bilbo

Bilbo's loving mum Crystal was pregnant when she came to our sanctuary in 2017. Crystal and Bella have always been inseparable so lucky Bilbo got two doting mummies. He has grown into a confident little donkey. Sadly we lost our dear Crystal just some days before christmas 2019. Bilbo was devastated but luckily he had Bella to look after him.



David



Our adorable, cheeky little donkey David was rescued together with Barbara. He totally likes to play football or other games with his friend Mac and truly adores his big friend Big Bear, who is very protective of him. David has the most shiny black fur and he is a very cuddly sweetheart.

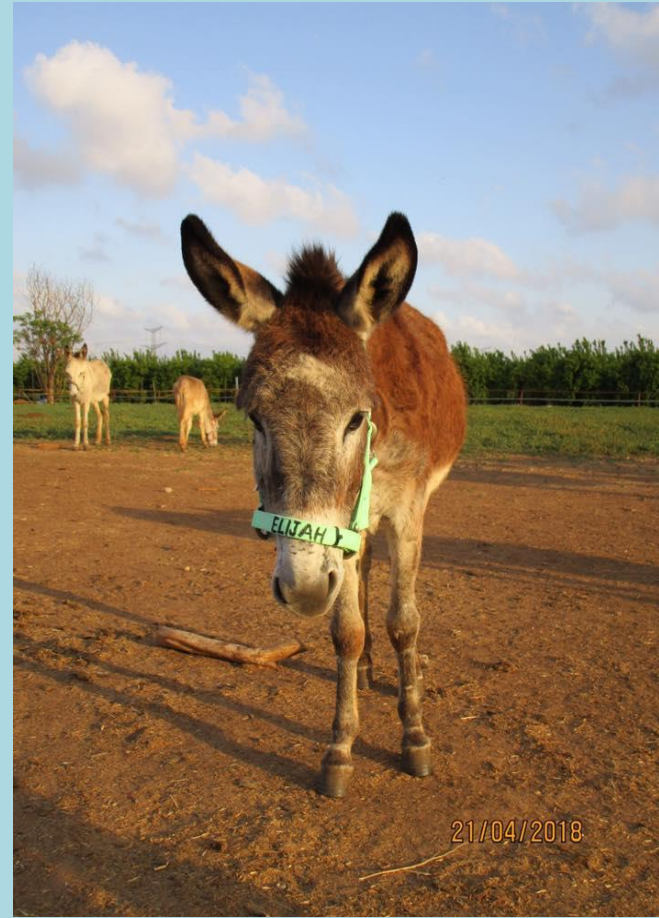
Elsa & Bru

Our wonderful, clever Elsa gave birth to her beautiful baby Bru and what a marvelous mummy she is. Both are inseparable and love each other very much. Now that Bru is growing a bit older, he starts to play with the other donkeys during the day. But the night he always spends close to his mama Elsa.



Elijah

We have rescued this young little boy from the same area as Noah and Jeremiah, near the Palestinian border – overworked and beaten, left with horrible back sores and sores on his poor shoulders and rump area, from being beaten and from ill fitting harness. It took us a while until we managed to treat all his wounds but luckily he has trusted us and let us do everything. Now he is a very healthy and happy donkey who mostly likes to hang around with the other boys.



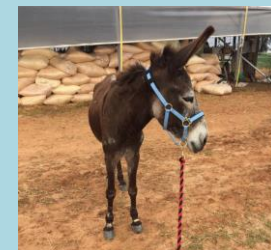
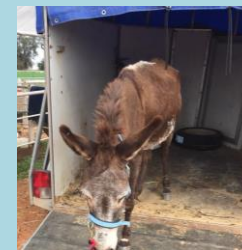
Erika

We got a call to go into the Palestinian city of Tulkarem to rescue this little donkey. She was less than a year old but was being brutally beaten and ridden by young boys. Thankfully she was not too badly wounded. What was remarkable was the fact that she showed such appreciation to us, her rescuers. Today Erika is a happy little donkey who found a lot of donkey friends.



Our dear old Esther was found abandoned, abused and horribly terrified in the middle of a busy highway. We needed the help of the Israeli police to rescue her. Esther is a friendly, wise and shy soul. She was a loner until she bonded with Sika who we rescued just some weeks later. Esther is our weakest donkey as she had a terrible life for a very long time. But with Sika and her medication she can really enjoy the rest of her life.

Esther



Fiona & Fresco

Fiona and Fresco came to us as orphans. They feel like syblings and love each other very much. Baby *Fiona* was thrown out as her owner said she was disturbing her mom from working. *Fresco* at first was disinterested in life. We tried to give him special milk substitute but he did not touch it and we were so worried. Then we saw how he had taught himself to eat big boys food as he was chomping on grain and carrot peel. Both are very happy donkeys now.



Grace & Molly



Molly was born in 2018 to Grace, an abused working donkey, rescued by us from an awful life where she was forced every day to canter along, pulling her heavily laden cart, even though she had terribly crippled feet. Molly on the other hand has known nothing but love and has grown into a cheeky and totally irresistible young donkey.

Ginger



Our little Ginger girl was found abandoned in the Palestinian city, Qalqilya. We could tell from her tiny size that she was separated from her mother at too early an age but just like our little Fresco, she learned early on, to be independent and survive against the odds. Our Ginger turned into a confident and happy young donkey lady.

Gideon

Late in the night we have received a call for help for this poor donkey, he's been left stranded in the heavy pouring rain and floods with ropes around his neck. He was soaked to the bones, freezing and and was very hungry and thirsty. Luckily we could manage to bring him to our sanctuary where he started to tuck into his food immediately. He seemed to be quite afraid of other donkeys so we decided to give him his own space for a while. Now that he adapted he is happily running with our herd.



Gretel

A lady in Tira told us she had seen a donkey abandoned in an open area with a rope tied tightly around her front leg and wounds on her body. We think that she was a working donkey who had been left by her Palestinian owners for the weekend while they crossed back over the border from Israel into the West Bank for a few days, until they would return. But of course the donkey was left without any water, food or shade and we took her with us.



Harry & Paulo

These two poor donkeys had been terribly abused. Harry, the darker boy and Paulo, the lighter, are attached to each other, perhaps because of the trauma they've both suffered and then having been together during their rescue.

Although Paulo is more timid than Harry, he is gaining confidence slowly but surely and it's possible to see the contentment in their faces and the fact that they know they are now safe and of course very much loved.



Ian

Ian was being beaten with a heavy metal pole by three boys while pulling them in a cart. He is tiny and was struggling with the weight and could barely put one leg in front of the other. We stopped them and saw deep wounds from the constant beating. Also the top of his beautiful ears had been cut off. Our Ian has come a long way since – his wounds have healed and he is living a happy life now at our sanctuary.



Jane & Sam

We rescued dear old mama Jane after she had been abandoned because she was blind and unwanted, she had of course already conceived by then. She was a little bewildered by giving birth but she is proving to be a wonderful, careful, caring mum and her little Sam is just the most exquisite tiny soul. Now that he turned a bit older, he turned out to be such a lovely and responsible son who guides his blind mum through the day. He brings her to the most sunniest places and shows her where to find food.



Jeremiah



Jeremiah belonged to children who were beating him mercilessly on his raw open wounds. One of the services we offer in the West Bank is to perform human castration under full anaesthetic. This operation spares donkeys from suffering horrific pain as the castration in the West Bank is often conducted without any anaesthetic using the most torturous method. Unfortunately this is what had been done to our Jeremiah and our heart aches to imagine the unimaginable pain he must have suffered. Luckily he is now safe with us. He has a kidney failure and needs regular treatments.



Joan



One of our supporters saw our darling Joan being brutally beaten again and again by some young boys. Because this little donkey was in a very bad state, the Israeli army stepped in and confiscated her. It took a while until Joan's wounds had healed, but now she is a very happy, funny and cuddly donkey who loves to hang around with her girl group.



Katy

Katy was a poor hard working, very abused donkey who came to us from the West Bank, where she suffered a brutal attack as people tried to break her ear. She was beaten so hard that she was bleeding and she was very dehydrated. We nursed her back to life and now she is a happy and extremely funny little donkey. Whenever she spots a camera, she starts posing.



Lila

Our little Lila is a beautiful and young donkey lady. She was found terrified as she was desperately trying to avoid the speeding trucks and cars on a busy highway. It took us a few attempts over the course of five days to finally to catch her. Miraculously the rescue succeeded and now Lila is happy and safe in our sanctuary.



Lily

Lily's story sadly is very similar to the story of our just recently rescued donkey Cicely.

She was also very badly abused by young boys and as she is very young, she is also very timid. It is likely that she has only ever experienced beatings and rough handling, no gentle hand to stroke her or soft words into her velvet ears. Now she always follows us to ask for cuddles and attention. When it comes to protecting her food she can be a little bit of a bully.



Mac



Our beautiful, golden Mac was found, a little, lost wandering donkey in the Palestinian city of Qalqilya. Luckily he was seen by our Palestinian farrier and outreach assistant, Khaled who took him back to his yard until we were able to pick him up. Now he loves playing and having fun and games with our other boy donkeys.

Moses

Moses was badly abused and was found being brutally beaten. He has a scarred nose from the chains and was so afraid of people that he held his tail between his legs when we approached him. Slowly he started coming round to understand he is not going to be hurt ever again. His soft eyes show that he can't quite believe it when we gently touch him or talk to him. He clearly loves to be loved.



Noah

Noah was confiscated by the Israeli army, from his Palestinian owner when a couple of Israeli soldiers saw the donkey cowering as the man was beating him.

Noah is a dear boy despite having been so badly abused. He has quite a scarred nose and very wrinkled skin because of the multiple chains that were used to 'control' him. Noah is very happy now and always the first in line when dinner time comes close.



Raphael & Michael

When Raphael was rescued along with his friend Michael, it was a picture of horror, both were covered in wounds and rotten flesh. This was likely due to the repeated beating of those areas. It took months of intensive care for the wounds to heal. The wounds on the pictures are already almost healed so you do not want to imagine how the poor boys looked like when we first met them. Now both of them are fully enjoying their new life in love and peace at our sanctuary and are still inseparable.



Rolo

Another little donkey that was confiscated from his owner as he was seen being beaten and abused as he was pulling his cart through a busy market. We called him Rolo because of his wonderful dark brown fur. Rolo integrated very quickly into our herd and is a very happy little donkey now.



Shanaya

Shanaya was left tethered with chains and ropes around her neck, under the sun in the current boiling July temperatures, without any water and food and although she is still only young, it is very clear to see she's already led an extremely hard life. Thankfully the police were called to make sure she was guarded until we could arrange for her to be safely brought to our sanctuary, where she seemed to immediately feel comfortable, had a long drink of water and a lovely munch of plentiful hay.



Siggi & John

Siggi was seen by one of the border patrol army units standing harnessed at a cart for two days under the boiling sun without any food or water. They unhitched her harness and cart and led her away. We treated all her wounds and it has beautifully healed since. Siggy was pregnant when we rescued her and some months later she gave birth to her beautiful and sweet son John.



Sika

Our Sika was rescued from the side of a road in the south of Israel. A kind couple found him very late at night when he had just narrowly avoided a full on collision and they thankfully somehow managed to bundle him into their van and brought him to us. He is very shy but found a good and loyal friend in our dear old Esther, who also usually avoids other donkeys. They hang out in the sun together during the day and share a stable in the night.



Stevie

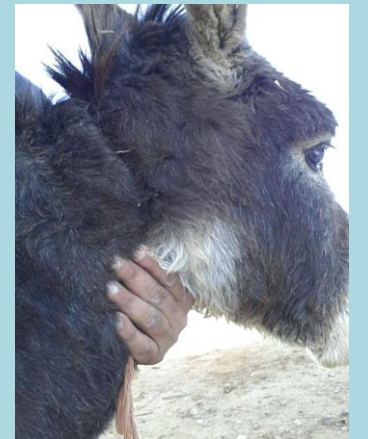
Rescued from truly awful circumstances from a life of horrific abuse, this poor little donkey is so physically scarred and yet, he seems so calm emotionally, as if he just senses that he has come to a little donkey paradise. Stevie's poor body is covered in scars but we've given him a soothing wash and despite all he has been through, he's surprisingly calm and seems to appreciate a gentle human touch. He is a very sensitive soul and can sense he is now safe and cared for and that no hand will hurt him again.



Thomas



Our dear old Thomas is partially blind and was found abandoned on a road in Qalansuwa. He had thin strings tied so tightly around his neck it had started to get embedded in his flesh but luckily he seemed to reach us just in time. It took us quite a while to encourage him to allow us to remove the string. Now he is a very sweet old boy who shares a stable in the night with Jane and Sam.



Valerie & Taylor

This is Valerie and Taylor, possibly mother and son, found being viciously beaten and abused. We managed to rescue them right before a bad storm hit so thankfully they are now safe and warm at our little sanctuary. Both have scars and injuries but totally embrace the love and care we offer to them. Valerie needs a lot of intensive care and huge amounts of food as she is very weak.

Update. Sadly our darling Valerie died in June 2020 and we take comfort in the fact that she lived the last year of her life in love and peace. Bear and David take now care of little Taylor.



Zachariah



Zachariah was found in the Golan Heights. He is severely traumatised with both eyes gouged out and stab wounds all over his body and he was ready to defend himself against humans at all costs. We cannot even imagine what he must have suffered and what he felt. It took us very long but in tiny steps we managed to gain a bit of his trust. Slowly his soul is starting to heal and today he enjoys nothing more than being brushed and cuddled.

Donations and adoptions



We hope you enjoyed the little tour through our donkey sanctuary. All our beloved animals can be symbolically adopted*. You will receive a wonderful adoption certificate as PDF that you could print out at home. The yearly fee is just GBP 20, EUR 25 or USD 30.

You will find all information about adoption and donation on our websites:

<https://www.lucydonkeyfoundation.org.uk/adoptions>

<https://www.lucydonkeysanctuary.org/donation>

From all our heart we thank you for any help you are able to give.



- * It is also possible to get a certificate in German or Hebrew language.
- For German please contact Biggi on bzielo@yahoo.com or Facebook Biggi Ziello
- For Hebrew please contact Lucy on flucydonk@gmail.com or FB Lucy Fensom

**Thank you very much
for supporting our little, loving
sanctuary.**

